CONQUERING THE TYPHUS PLAGUE—Richard P. Strong, M. D.
NEARLY A YEAR'S WAR RELIEF WORK—Mabel T. Boardman

AUG 13 1915

THE AMERICAN RED CROSS MAGAZINE

10:8

FOUNDED TO AID IN THE PREVENTION AND ALLEVIATION OF HUMAN SUFFERING IN TIMES OF WAR AND PEACE

AUGUST 1915

PUBLISHED BY
THE AMERICAN RED CROSS
WASHINGTON, D. C.

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VOLUME TEN NUMBER EIGHT

The American Red Cross Magazine

EDITED BY AUSTIN CUNNINGHAM

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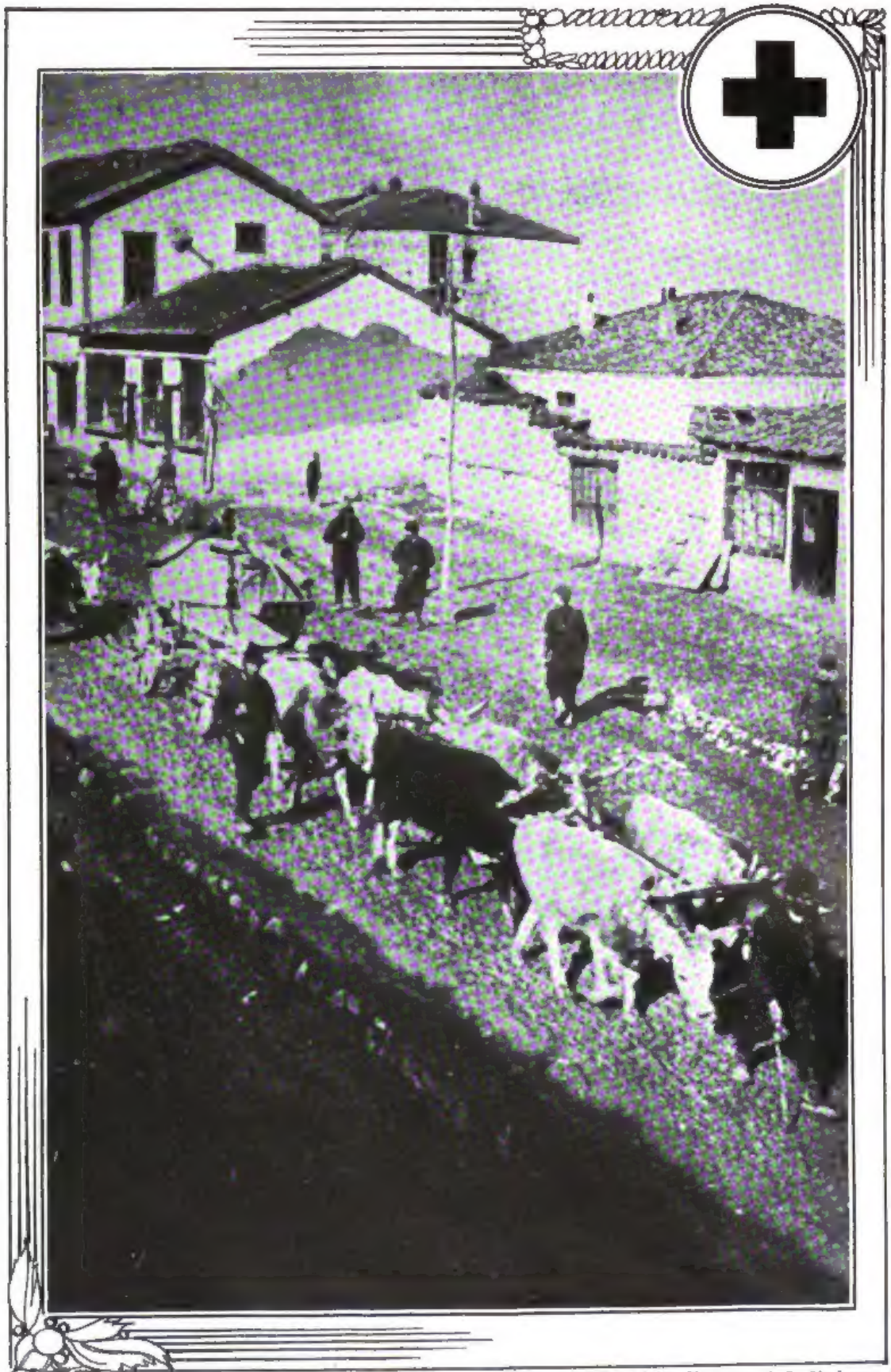

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SCENE IN A TYPICAL SERBIAN VILLAGE. BY THIS PRIMITIVE METHOD WATER IS CARRIED TO OUTLYING POINTS. (See *Conquering the Serbian Plague*.)

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THE AMERICAN RED CROSS MAGAZINE

VOLUME TEN AUGUST, 1915 NUMBER EIGHT

CONQUERING THE TYPHUS PLAGUE

By RICHARD P. STRONG, M. D.

Director of the American Red Cross Sanitary Commission; Chief Surgeon of the International Health Board at Nish

EDITOR'S NOTE.—*There is an element of extraordinary adventure in the following report, hastily dictated at odd moments in the form of a diary, by Dr. Richard P. Strong, Professor of Tropical Diseases in Harvard Medical School, who is on his second important Red Cross mission as Director of the American Red Cross Sanitary Commission sent to do battle with the menacing typhus epidemic in Serbia and Montenegro. Dr. Strong's other assignment was as American Red Cross delegate, along with Dr. Oscar Teague, to the Mukden pneumonic plague conference in 1911 which resulted in the suppression of one of the worst pestilential visitations China has ever suffered. In advance of this pieced-together story, listen to an unpremeditated preface on what our Sanitary Commission has accomplished—a letter from that doughty and philanthropically-inclined British yachtsman, Sir Thomas Lipton, written the latter part of June and mailed at Piraeus, Greece, to Red Cross headquarters in Washington:*

"The work that has been performed by Dr. Strong and his staff has been miraculous in the way of killing this disease (typhus). Many hospitals that I visited the last time I was in the country were full of typhus cases, but this time I called they had none.

"At Uskub, the headquarters of Dr. Strong, some of the hospitals are closing up. I could hardly believe that in such a short time the staff you sent out here could have made such a change. The terrible sights that I witnessed in connection with typhus when I was in Serbia the first time are now finished.

"What is now badly needed is for the country to be put in a proper sanitary condition to prevent these epidemics in the future."

AFTER an inspection of the hospitals, barracks and town of Metrovitza, Serbia, and learning what was needed, we had a hasty luncheon and at 3 o'clock in the afternoon (this is late in May) started out on horseback for Pech, Montenegro. My party consisted of Mr. Brink, our sanitary inspector, a Serbian gendarme and my interpreter. It began raining about 4 o'clock and continued to do so almost the entire night. We were wet through. I expected to have a carriage meet me on the border between Serbia and Montenegro. It was raining heavily when we arrived there and there was no carriage. We went on anyhow. Dawn comes very early in this part of the world this time of year. At 3.30 o'clock in the morning, although it was raining, I could see clearly enough to tell the time by my watch. We rode into Pech at 5 A. M., having been in the saddle or on foot for fourteen hours. My

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Photo by C. S Eby

DR. RICHARD P. STRONG, DIRECTOR OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS SANITARY COMMISSION, PHOTOGRAPHED ON THE DECK OF THE *CANOPIC* IN THE AZORES, EN ROUTE TO SERBIA. HE IS ADJUSTING HIS POCKET CAMERA. THE MAN WEARING CAP AND GLASSES IS DR. OSGOOD, PROFESSOR OF ORTHOPOEDIC SURGERY IN HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL, MEMBER OF THE HARVARD HOSPITAL UNIT BOUND

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ANCIENT AMBULANCES BRINGING IN WOUNDED SERBIANS IN THE HEART OF THE TYPHUS COUNTRY. THE WHEELS ARE COVERED WITH MUD FROM THE MOUNTAIN ROADS.

gendarme made a sorry appearance as we rode into the village.

CONDITIONS FRIGHTFULLY INSANITARY.

In Pech we did not find attractive quarters at the hotel; in fact, they were most insanitary, and, to be truthful, there was no place to wash or make one's toilet. I sat down and waited in the yard. By half past six o'clock we found and roused the Doctor and with him I went immediately to inspect the hospital. Here I found conditions in a dreadful and very alarming state. On entering the hospital I saw in the first room many piles of clothing which had been removed from the typhus cases. These lay on the floor and crawling over them and upon the floor in the vicinity there were literally thousands of lice. I have never seen so many before. The hospital had some 250 typhus cases and they were all badly neglected. The wards themselves were in a dreadful condition. There were no disinfectants and no means for bathing the patients and no clean clothes or bedding for them. The condition of the latrines was beyond description.

At 8.30 A. M. I met the Prefect, who is a first cousin of the King, and the Commanding General at Pech, and had a long interview with them. I then went to visit the barracks in different parts of the town where the soldiers were quartered. After this I had another long interview with the General and Prefect and we prepared a list of what seemed needed in Pech for sanitary work and for the hospitals. I knew that unless stringent measures were immediately taken here typhus would probably spread rapidly and another epidemic result, as in Serbia. I have arranged to disinfect the hospitals, the patients and their clothes. We shall place the troops that are now in barracks in tents while we are disinfecting their former quarters, clothes and bedding. I have supplies, clean underclothes and night shirts for all the patients in the hospital and have quarantined Pech.

I am sending Dr. Grinnell and Mr. de la Pena to take charge at Pech, and with them will go a large quantity of disinfectants, bath tubs, etc. I think Grinnell is just the man to take hold of this difficult proposition. I do not know whether you can quite realize the importance of trying to prevent immediately the further

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THE FORMER TOBACCO FACTORY IN GHEVGHELI, CONVERTED INTO A HOSPITAL BY AMERICAN RED CROSS SURGEONS AND NURSES. THIS HOSPITAL, AT ONE TIME, HOUSED MANY TYPHUS-STRICKEN WOUNDED SOLDIERS; AND HERE IS WHERE DR. JAMES F. DONNELLY, OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS, LAID DOWN HIS LIFE FOR HUMANITY.

spread of this disease in Montenegro.

After a quick lunch in Pech at one o'clock in the afternoon we left by carriage and arrived at Decani two hours later. I found here several thousand soldiers quartered in a monastery with a Serbian priest caring for them the best he could. I promised to send him disinfectants and expert assistance. Cases of typhus were developing among the men who had come there from Pech. After spending about an hour and a half here studying conditions and giving advice we continued traveling in our carriages until eight o'clock at night. It was then quite dark and Mr. Brink and I decided to camp and spend the night in the open, sending the two carriages with the guards and the interpreter on to town, an hour's travel distant.

A NIGHT IN THE OPEN.

I forgot to mention that I had an escort of six gendarmes with me because we were passing through a territory which is on the Albanian border and the Albanians are very unfriendly to the Montenegrins. The gendarme in command begged me not to camp in the open, saying it was very dangerous to do so. However, as I had not slept for twenty-eight hours I did not feel like going on at that hour of the night and spending it at the infected hotel. We therefore insisted on remaining that night in the open. A camp fire was started and Mr. Brink made some coffee and fried some bacon. This we ate, together with a tin of salmon and some biscuits.

Our meal had hardly been finished before a curious incident happened. A man, screaming with all his lung-power, came running into our vicinity, chased by an Albanian with a rifle in his hands. This man claimed, as we found out later, that the Albanian was trying to kill him. It seems the Albanian had seen our camp fire and had crossed the border to find out what it meant. We gave him something to eat and he at once became very friendly. By signs he intimated to us we should put the camp fire out and lie down and go to sleep. In fact, he several times tried to put the fire out himself and kept pointing to the Albanian frontier, every once in a while raising his rifle to his shoulder as if about to fire, indicating,

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SIR THOMAS LIPTON AND TWO SERBIAN OFFICERS AT THE GRAVE OF DR. JAMES F. DONNELLY OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS IN GHEVGHELI. DR. DONNELLY WAS THE FIRST AMERICAN VICTIM OF TYPHUS IN THE CRUSADE. THERE IS A DEARTH OF FLOWERS HERE, BUT THE SERBIANS PLACE GREEN PLANTS ON THE GRAVE FREQUENTLY.

we presumed, that we were in danger.

As the rain was now pouring down we decided to go to bed. We had no tents with us, but had the canvas covers for our hammocks. We spread our bedding on the ground and then climbed under the canvas. The rain fell heavily all night long. I was wet through and found next morning that my pocketbook had been so badly soaked that my passport which it contained was damaged and the pigment on the red seal had smeared on the paper. We heard some shooting in the night, but no shots were exchanged. A little before 4 A. M. we crawled out of our beds. It was still raining. We rolled up the watersoaked bedding and left it there on the plain to be sent for, and started on our walk to the town of Djakovitza, which we reached about 5:45 o'clock. The Commanding Officer in the town was scandalized to hear that we had camped in the open on the Albanian border. He said it not only was very unsafe but that no one had done such a thing for many years; that our experience would go down in history. We, however, preferred to take the risk of being shot, to sleeping in a typhus-infected hotel.

SOME MONTENEGRIN SCENERY.

The Prefect and the Commanding Officer went with us on a round of inspection of the hospitals, barracks and of Djakovitza generally. Typhus had broken out here too among troops that had come from Pech. There were ninety cases of it in the main hospital, all among Pech troops. I at once arranged to have all people coming this way from Pech intercepted and held in quarantine ten

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THE FUNERAL OF DR. ERNEST P. MAGRUDER, THE SECOND AMERICAN RED CROSS TYPHUS VICTIM, IN BELGRADE.

days before being allowed to enter Djakovitza.

Having investigated the needs of the town, I at once purchased a thousand kilos of lime from a neighboring village and arranged to send to Djakovitza a quantity of disinfectants and further medical assistance. The Prefect had no money with which to purchase such necessaries. We left this town about 3 o'clock in the afternoon by carriage for Prizren. The country throughout Montenegro, as in Serbia, is very hilly or mountainous, but whether one goes by carriage or horseback he must do a great deal of walking up the hills. Prizren is a most picturesque town with a population of 25,000. It is located at the foot of snow-clad mountains and many beautiful mountain streams run through the place. Arriving there at 9 o'clock at night, I found there were but three doctors, one of whom was down with typhus and another just convalescing from it. The hospitals, three in number, were all in a very insanitary condition, with practically no disinfectants to be had. There is a great amount of sanitary work to be done in this town. We spent the night at the residence of a Serbian professor of theology who looked after our comfort as well as he could. The following afternoon, however, we inspected the hospitals and arranged for sanitary help and left by carriage for Ferrosovitz and arrived there at 9:30 P. M. Here again we encountered beautiful scenery, mountain gorges and falls making the ride very interesting.

WORKING A HANDCAR TO SKOPLJE.

We were met by the Prefect of Ferrosovitz. We spent the night here, retiring at 10:30 rather tired, after having arranged for a handcar with which to make the journey via the railroad track the following morning. This had to be done because I was anxious to get back to Skoplje (Uskub) as quickly as possible to start a relief expedition out, and there would be no train going until the

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next afternoon and no engine was available. We were indeed fortunate to find a handcar. On Saturday morning, May 23, we rose at 3:30 o'clock and by 4 o'clock were making our way on the handcar. Our car proved unruly, for after we had been running about an hour one of the iron thwarts which hold the wooden handlebar, by means of which the car is propelled, suddenly broke. Happily we were running down hill at the time and could keep the car going until we reached the next station. Here we were fortunate to find a blacksmith and within an hour he had welded the broken parts of the handlebar together. We were able thus to reach Skoplje by 10 o'clock in the morning.

In Skoplje I found enough work to keep me busy for the rest of the day. It was a disappointment to learn that nothing had been done towards the building of a bathing establishment which I had offered to pay for. I learned from the Serbian doctor that it would cost considerably more than they had previously thought it would. I have, however, arranged to begin its construction immediately, and have the General's promise that he will have the work completed as soon as possible. I received two telegrams from Sir Thomas Lipton saying he is anxious to see me. He has just arrived in Serbia and passed through here last evening. I have arranged to meet him here Tuesday morning.

MORE DOCTORS NEEDED; MEALS SIMPLE.

May 25, Tuesday, Nish. We left Skoplje by train Monday night at 8 o'clock and arrived at Nish at 5:30 this morning. You see I am living up to my habit of stopping only one night at one place. I found cablegrams and letters awaiting me. It was something of a disappointment to learn that the forty-five doctors who were to help me at the expense of the Serbian Government had not sailed owing to the lack of immediate transportation facilities. I need every doctor that I can get and as soon as possible.

I spent several hours today with Sir Thomas Lipton. The British Minister, Mr. Degra, gave a luncheon today at which Sir Thomas, Sir Ralph Paget, an English army officer, Mrs. Stovart, and several others, were present. I sat at Mr. Degra's right and Sir Thomas on his left. Why? Sir Thomas, as you know, is very fond of the Americans. I dined quietly with Sir Ralph Paget this evening and we discussed the coming session of the International Health Board which was to take place the next morning. I assure you our meals are very simple affairs.

A TABLET PLACED IN THE WALL OF A PUBLIC BUILDING IN GHEVGHELI OUT OF RESPECT TO DR DONNELLY AND TWO SERBIAN PHYSICIANS WHO DIED OF TYPHUS.

METHOD OF HANDLING PATIENTS.

May 26, Wednesday, Nish. We are on the train returning from Nish to Skoplje and will reach the latter place tomorrow morning at 5:30 o'clock. This morning I had an important session with the International Health Board. I am glad to say that my transportable disinfecting and bathing plants have just

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been finished and will be sent to Skoplje tomorrow for use. It consists of one car which contains a boiler for generating steam, and a second car, formerly a refrigerating car, which is practically a huge autoclave, and into which the steam is turned for the disinfection of the clothes; a third car in which there are fifteen shower baths. The individuals are to have their hair clipped, to be bathed and their clothes disinfected by steam

THE GRAVE OF DR. ERNEST P. MAGRUDER, OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS, IN THE SERBIAN CAPITAL. (See *Editorial Comment*).

while they are bathing. Their clothes will be ready for them to put on after their bath. Before they clothe themselves they are sprayed with petroleum. It is the idea also to vaccinate them immediately afterwards. Several thousand people can be bathed and disinfected in a day by this means and the cars can be moved from city to city. You remember I used to utilize cars with steam disinfection in Manchuria.

May 27, Thursday, Skoplje. I reached here at 5:30 this morning and after breakfast completed arrangements for the inoculation of the troops against cholera. At 10 o'clock we began the inoculation and continued until about 12.30. Everything went off smoothly and satisfactorily. The men took off their coats and removed from the arm the left sleeve of the undershirt. The arm is scrubbed with soap and water and then another attendant paints a little tincture of iodine over the place where the inoculation is to be made. The men pass along in rows and after they are inoculated another attendant paints the arm again with tincture of iodine. One man can inoculate about 75 patients in an hour.

This afternoon has been spent in conferences at the office with the Prefect and Dr. Joudinovitch, the civil city physician here. I paid to the Prefect the sum of 5170 francs for the erection of the disinfecting and bathing plant here. I also went to the station and arranged for a place where the transportable disinfecting plant could be located

I am now about to retire as I shall be up at 5 o'clock tomorrow morning.

* * *

Foot Note by the Editor—As a contribution to the American Red Cross work in Serbia from Mt. Sinai Hospital in New York, Dr. Harry Plotz, who is believed to have discovered a typhus antitoxin, and Dr. George Baehr, both graduates of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University, sailed from New York June 27 for Serbia, via Saloniki, Greece. They will join Dr. Strong. Their expenses are borne by the Board of Directors of Mt. Sinai Hospital and they carried with them a complete bacteriological outfit also generously supplied through the Mt. Sinai Hospital. Since their departure the Red Cross has made additional shipments of sanitary supplies for use by the Commission in Serbia and Montenegro.

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NEARLY A YEAR'S WAR RELIEF WORK

BY

MABEL T. BOARDMAN

In issuing the third quarterly statement for 1915 on the European war relief work the Central Committee of the American Red Cross makes a most earnest appeal for funds to continue its work.

All contributions may be sent to the American Red Cross, Washington, D. C., or to the local Red Cross treasurers.

The American Red Cross submits the third quarterly statement it has issued since the commencement of the European war. This embraces a brief record of its accomplishments from August 1, 1914, to July 8, 1915.

PERSONNEL SENT TO EUROPE.

Surgeons	71
Nurses	253
Sanitary Commission	43
Total	367

This personnel are in charge as follows:

2 English units	American Women's Hospital, Paignton
2 French units	Hospital at Pau
1 French unit	assisting Alliance Hospital, Yvetot
2 Russian units	Hospital at Kief
2 German units	Hospitals at Gleichwitz and Kossel
2 Austro-Hungarian units	Hospitals at Vienna and Budapest
3 Serbian units	Hospitals at Belgrade
2 Belgian units	under Dr. Depage, La Panne
Sanitary Commission	Serbia and Montenegro

MUST CURTAIL EUROPEAN EFFORT.

The American Red Cross by October 1st will have maintained this personnel in each country a year, with the exception of the Belgian units and the Sanitary Commission. The tour of duty required of each surgeon and nurse does not exceed six months, so that a number have already returned and substitutes been sent. By October a large number of those now in Europe will return. The cost of the transportation of these surgeons and nurses, going and coming, makes a constant and considerable financial demand upon the Red Cross treasury. The monthly pay-roll is also a large item of expense. In view of these facts, and because its funds are rapidly becoming exhausted, the American Red Cross has decided by October 1st of the present year to withdraw the personnel now in Europe; possibly with the exception of the units in Belgium. Much as it regrets this necessity, it realizes that no Red Cross of a neutral country ever before rendered so long and extensive service in the way of personnel to nations engaged in war.

The work of the American Red Cross Sanitary Commission under Dr. Richard P. Strong, for which the Rockefeller Foundation has made generous contributions, has been most successful. Dr. Strong was appointed Director of the International Health Board composed of Serbian health officers and the heads of the English, French and Russian missions. The American Minister at Bucharest reports to the State Department that the epidemic of typhus has been suppressed. Sir Thomas Lipton who was in Serbia at the height of the epidemic, has lately returned there and writes to the American Red Cross as follows:

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"MIRACULOUS" SUCCESS IN SERBIA

"The work that has been performed by Dr. Strong and his staff has been miraculous in the way of killing this disease (typhus). Many hospitals that I visited the last time I was in the country were full of typhus cases, but this time I called they had none. At Uskub, the headquarters of Dr. Strong, some of the hospitals are closing up. I could hardly believe that in such a short time the staff you sent out here could have made such a change. The terrible sights that I witnessed in connection with typhus when I was in Serbia the first time are now finished. What is now badly needed is for the country to be put in a proper sanitary condition to prevent these epidemics in the future."

A large number of persons also have been vaccinated against cholera, and so far no epidemic of that disease, which was very serious during the Balkan wars, has been reported.

The American Red Cross is now arranging for physicians, nurses and equipment for a Baby Hospital in Serbia, for which special contributions have been received through Madame Grouitch.

STATEMENT OF SUPPLIES SENT

Abdominal Bands	9,402	Hospital pillows	22,412
Acetic Acid ..... gals.	4	Hospital supplies, miscellaneous ..... cases	131
Acid, Boric ..... lbs.	3,360	Hot water bottles	715
Adhesive Plaster ..... rolls	11,345	Hypodermic ampules .... cases	2
Adhesive Plaster ..... yds.	3,500	Ice bags and caps	336
Air Bed and Pillows.....	97	Iodine crystals ..... lbs.	43
Alcohol ..... gals.	1,034	Iodine, tincture ..... gals.	248
Anaesthetics ..... lbs.	31,191	Iron pans	1,050
Antimeningitis serum .... doses	1,000	Kerosene oil ..... gals.	7,000
Antiseptic tablets	1,150,000	Kraft paper ..... lbs.	13,986
Antitoxin, tetanus, typhoid and diphtheria ..... cases	71	Laboratory equipment ... cases	118
Army medical unit ..... cases	52	Ligatures and sutures.... cases	11
Artesian well supplies ... cases	576	Liquid soap ..... gals.	2
Bandages	1,906,800	Maternity boxes	132
Bath tubs	70	Mercurial ointment	180
Blankets	13,876	Miscellaneous articles ...	2,635
Borax ..... lbs.	2,600	Mosquito bars	150
Chlorine tablets	1,000	Mosquito netting ..... yds.	797
Cholera vaccine ..... doses	12,200	Motor ambulances and tents	31
Cigarettes	10,375,000	Mufflers	29,341
Articles of clothing for refugees	209,003	Muslin ..... yds.	7,686
Comfort bags	3,680	Old linen ..... cases	43
Cotton ..... lbs.	892,870	Phinotas oil ..... gals.	3,500
Crutches ..... prs.	146	Plaster of paris ..... lbs.	1,875
Crutch pads	144	Potassium permanganate iodine ..... lbs.	1,925
Detached service chests...	11	Quinine tablets ..... bottles	50
Diphtheria antitoxin .... doses	3,000	Rubber fingers	576
Drugs ..... cases	126	Rubber gloves	3,904
Dutch ovens	700	Rubber sheets	2,036
Field hospitals (4) ..... cases	420	Rubber sheeting ..... yds.	401
Flour for paste ..... lbs.	13,720	Rubber tubing ..... lbs.	61
Food stuffs for Serbia personnel ..... cases	53	Rubber tubing ..... ft.	815
Formaldehyde ..... gals.	701	Safety pins	1,440
Gauze, plain ..... yds.	1,062,281	Sanitary straws	300,000
Gauze, crinoline ..... yds.	67,315	Slings	19,810
Gloves and mittens ..... prs.	2,013	Slippers ..... prs.	394
Green soap ..... lbs.	264	Smallpox vaccine ..... tubes	10,000
Handkerchiefs	22,582	Soap ..... cakes	10,830
Helmets	2,362	Socks ..... prs.	28,137
Hospital garments	211,688	Soups ..... cans	216
Hospital equipment ..... cases	31	Splints	248
Hospital Linen ..... articles	49,548	Spray pumps	14

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STATEMENT OF SUPPLIES SENT. (*Continued.*)

Step ladders	70	Tents	196
Sterilizers	23	Washing soda ..... lbs.	20,000
Stretchers	9,306	Washing borax ..... lbs.	228
Sulphur ..... lbs.	358,983	Waterproof sheeting .... yds.	100
Surgical dressings and pads	1,106,516	Whitewash brushes	700
Surgical emergency boxes	18	Wristlets	13,796
Surgical instruments additional	1,573	Yarn ..... lbs.	698

GENEROUS ASSISTANCE CONTINUED

This includes supplies purchased, designated and undesignated; also supplies for the Sanitary Commission and purchased on the order of the American Ambulance in Paris.

Mr. Irving T. Bush has continued his generous donation of the use of the large warehouse at the Bush Terminal for the collection of supplies free of all charge, and Mr. Cleveland Dodge has paid the salaries of an efficient packing and shipping force.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

(The accounts of the American Red Cross are required by law to be audited by the War Department.)

Receipt: Contributions		$1,560,124.00
Special from Serbian Agricultural Relief Committee		10,000.00
Special from the Rockefeller Foundation for the Sanitary Commission		65,000.00
		1,635,124.00

(The Rockefeller Foundation also contributed $10,000 additional directly to the Commission in Serbia.)

Expenditures:

Cash remitted	$423,882.00	
(Designated contributions $217,182: undesignated contributions $206,700).		
Salaries of Surgeons & Nurses	216,018.00	
Travel and maintenance of personnel; transportation of supplies on land and sea, including freight, drayage, expressage, lighterage, pilotage, etc.	148,472.00	
War insurance	10,138.00	
Equipments and Outfits	36,298.00	
Supplies purchased	354,630.00	
Appropriated for pensions for the widows of two American Red Cross doctors who died of Typhus while on duty in Serbia	15,000.00	
Miscellaneous	2,375.00	
Sanitary Commission—appropriated for transportation, equipment, supplies, salaries, and maintenance	105,000.00	
Designated contributions to be remitted	8,493.00	
Salaries and maintenance for 3 months additional, and return of personnel (estimated)	140,000.00	
		1,460,306.00
Balance		174,818.00

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BENEFICIARIES ARE ENUMERATED

Funds have been transmitted to aid in the maintenance of the work of the American Ambulance at Paris, the American Women's Hospital at Paignton, the American Red Cross Hospitals at Munich, the hospitals at Gleichwitz and Kossel, Germany; Vienna and Budapest, the Alliance Hospital, Yvetot; the Hospital at Kief, Russia; the American Relief Clearing House, Paris; the Prisoners' Bureau of the International Committee of Geneva; Belgian relief in Holland, the Red Cross of The Netherlands; the British, French and American mission hospitals in Turkey; the English hospital at Smyrna; hospital and relief work at Beirut, Syria; Jewish relief in Palestine; refugee relief, Tabriz, Persia; Austrian and German prisoners in Siberia; the British Red Cross Intelligence Department; for the transportation of wounded from the front, and to assist those totally blinded by war.

IT IS DESIRED TO EMPHASIZE THE FACT THAT NO ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES ARE PAID FROM THE RELIEF FUND. ALL SUCH EXPENSES, WHICH TO DATE AMOUNT TO $11,291, HAVE BEEN PAID BY THE AMERICAN RED CROSS.

RELIEF IN MEXICO

A very brief report is also given of Mexican receipts and expenditures.

Mexican Relief Fund, July 8, 1915.

Receipts: Contributions		$33,195.00
Expenditures:		
Provisions	$25,535.00	
Nurses (salaries, transportation and subsistence)	1,210.00	
Medical and Hospital supplies	682.00	
Cash donations:		
American Hospital, Mexico City	100.00	
American refugees	102.00	
Freight	411.00	
Express	8.00	
Consular fees	13.00	
Miscellaneous personal services	14.00	28,075.00
Balance		$5,120.00

At Monterey and Monclova thousands have been fed a day, mainly starving women and children.

Hospital and medical supplies were sent to the hospitals in Mexico City. The nurses cared for Mexican wounded brought over into American territory.

THIS IS A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE WORK ACCOMPLISHED SINCE AUGUST 1, 1914, AND THE AMERICAN RED CROSS, BASING ITS APPEAL ON THIS RECORD, ASKS FOR FURTHER GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS TO MAINTAIN ITS HUMANITARIAN SERVICE.

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AUSTRALIA GIVES A LIFT

Branch of the British Red Cross is Formed and Does Admirable Work

By H. LESLIE McWHINNEY

ON the outbreak of war, Her Excellency, Lady Helen Munro Ferguson, cabled Home to the British Red Cross Society enquiring if they would authorize the establishment of an Australian branch of the organization. This was cordially agreed to by the Society, and steps were immediately taken to organize a Society in all the States of the Commonwealth Her Excellency became president of the branch, and the wives of the State Governors became Presidents of the Divisions of the Society in each State.

Contributions in money and kind were then asked for, and a Centrol Depot was established at Federal Government House, Melbourne; also Depots in the Town Hall, Sydney; in Government Houses at Adelaide and Perth, and also in Tasmania and Queensland.

The work in the central Depot at Federal Government House may be taken as typical of what is done elsewhere. Goods are sent in daily from all the various Centres established in Victoria and from a few neighboring places in other States In these Depots the goods are sorted out, tied up in bundles of ten, and packed in cases measuring 2'x2'x2', each case containing only one kind of article and having the contents thereof clearly indicated outside.

Numerous Organizations Assist

Different parties of ladies attend at the depot on every week day, and excellent work has been done by the National Womens' Council, the Quamby Club, The Presbyterian Ladies' College, the Victoria League, Mrs. Edward Miller, Mrs. Albert Miller, and many others. The packing in cases is undertaken by experts, employees of the various firms having their services given gratis. The boy scouts are in daily attendance and their services are invaluable. From the Central Depot 4,000 cases and bales have already been despatched, their value being about £45,000. From Sydney almost as large a number of cases has been forwarded to Great Britian; and in addition to that large contributions of frozen meat, milk, and eggs have been sent.

Humphrey Photo, Melbourne

HER EXCELLENCY, LADY HELEN MUNRO FERGUSON

President of the Newly-formed Australian Branch of the British Red Cross, and wife of the Governor General of Australia.

The money contributed by the public

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for Red Cross purposes has reached a total of £112,267.12.5 and of this:—

Victoria has contributed	.....	£59,412
New South Wales "	.....	£20,909
Tasmania "	.....	£ 7,072
Queensland "	.....	£ 6,231
West Australia "	.....	£ 1,505
Nth. Territory "	.....	£ 1,553
Norfolk Island "	.....	£ 217
South Australia "	.....	£15,366

Many branches and private individuals have also presented the Association with motor ambulances, and many Red Cross branches and individuals have presented motor ambulances direct to the Minister for Defence. Over £100,000 has been remitted Home to the parent Society and has been expended by them on the maintenance of their hospitals, ambulances trains, rest stations, convalescent homes, and, as it is calculated that the maintenance of all these various establishments costs the Society £10,000 a week, it may be said that the Australian branch has given the value of 10 weeks' maintenance.

QUEEN THANKS BRANCH

The contributions of clothing sent home are distributed through the hospitals at a rate of about 34,000 a week; they are also supplied to soldiers at the rest stations, and at the bath houses which have been erected in the rear of the trenches. Ten thousand pounds of the money sent home has been allotted specially to the Australian Hospital Units, and will be expended for their benefit by Surgeon-Major General Williams.

Numerous messages of gratitude and appreciation have been received from the representatives of the Red Cross Society, and the Central Council were also gratified by a warm message of thanks sent to them by the President of

BOYS OF LLOYD CENTER STATE SCHOOL, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA, MAKING SPLINTS AND CRUTCHES FOR USE BY THE BRITISH RED CROSS

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THE BALLROOM IN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HOUSE IN MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA, HAS BEEN CONVERTED INTO AN ASSORTING ROOM FOR RED CROSS SUPPLIES

the British Red Cross Society, Her Majesty, Queen Alexandra.

Owing to the great demand made on the parent society for money and clothing, it will not be possible to slacken efforts until the close of the war, and it is very gratifying to note that in every State workers are energetically continuing their labors, and that generous contributions are still being received at headquarters and also by the Treasurers of the various States.

HOSPITAL STERILIZER FOR FRANCE

The French Red Cross not long ago made known to the American Red Cross its very urgent need of a field hospital sterilizer costing $2,000. It now has it, with the compliments of the American Red Cross, Mrs. Levi P. Morton, wife of the former Vice-President; Mrs. George Cabot Lodge, and others. The American Red Cross contributed $1,000 towards the purchase of this life-saving outfit; Mrs. Morton gave $500, and Mrs. Lodge engaged to raise the remaining $500, which she did.

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Photos by M. E. Reed, Hosp. App. 1st Cl. U. S. N.

HERE ARE SHOWN WHAT WERE ONCE THE VILLAGES OF (UPPER) OLU AND (LOWER) FITIUTA, MANUA ISLANDS, AMERICAN SAMOA. THIS DESOLATION WAS WROUGHT BY A TYPHOON, NOT A FIRE (See *The Storm of Storms*).

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THE STORM OF STORMS

Graphic Description Comes From American Samoa of "the Worst Storm in the Memory of Man." Pests Add to Distress

ADDITIONAL reports which have come to American Red Cross headquarters through the kindness of the Navy Department and of Governor J. M. Poyer of American Samoa, indicate that in May, four months after the terrible typhoon of January 10, conditions among the 2,100 inhabitants of the Manua group of islands were almost as distressing as they were immediately after the storm. This was due to the destruction of the crop of taro plants, the principal food of the natives, by a parasite called the taro-worm. It appeared, furthermore, that the islands could not completely recover in an agricultural and horticultural way from the general destruction wrought by the typhoon for possibly seven or eight years. It may be recalled that in January Congress appropriated $10,000 for the relief of the storm sufferers in American Samoa and this sum was increased to $12,000 by the American Red Cross. The administration of the relief funds has been conducted in a conservative and business-like manner.

No typhoon or tidal wave in the history of these Pacific islets has equaled that frightful battle of the elements in January. A sand-laden wind of terrific velocity, accompanied by an earthquake and much thunder and lightning, played such havoc with the face of nature that it was miraculous that only one or two outright fatalities were reported. And oddly, too, in some instances crude native huts of timber remained standing when modern concrete buildings were completely razed to the ground. A brief description of what this most remarkable storm was like will be given a little farther on from certain of the reports made to Governor Poyer by the senior medical officer in the islands, Surgeon Edward G. Parker, United States Navy.

Writing to the Secretary of the Navy the latter part of March from Tutuila, Samoa, Governor Poyer showed that the appropriations made by Congress and the Red Cross apparently would have to care for the citizenship of the devastated islands for a period of eight months at least, which would mean that over such a period there would be available but two and four-tenths cents per day per person. In his latest report, mailed the Secretary of the Navy late in May, Governor Poyer says in part:

Parasite Destroys Staff of Life.

"The original problem was to feed about 2,100 people for a period of eight months. Food has been furnished for nearly four months and nearly one-third of the relief fund has been spent. As worms have appeared and destroyed the recently planted crops a radical change in our plan is necessary."

Here the Governor tells of using the U. S. S. Princeton to convey the people of Manua to Pago Pago in sufficiently large numbers to reduce the citizenship of Manua materially and thus lessen the cost of feeding the natives there.

"The situation presented by the wholesale destruction of the most essential food product is most serious," says Surgeon Parker in one of his reports to the Governor, "for taro must be regarded in Samoa indeed as the staff of life. It is most disheartening in that the ultimate recovery from the famine is now quite as far away as it was four months ago, and perhaps farther, for now we not only have no taro but have a destructive agent working against its further production.

"As matters stand now the very best that we can hope for is that by replanting at once we may have taro in about eight months. This only, however, in case we can successfully combat the worm at once, which is unlikely. To be sure, there will be bananas in small

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Photo by M. E. Reed

ALL THAT REMAINED, A MONTH AFTER THE STORM, OF THE VILLAGE OF SILI. SURGEON EDWARD G. PARKER, U. S. N., WHO HAS ABLY DIRECTED MUCH OF THE RELIEF WORK, IS SEEN IN THE FOREGROUND

quantities in about six months. We have, therefore, even under the most favorable conditions, the problem of feeding these people, some 2,000 in number, from outside sources for a period of seven or eight months.

"If we are successful in destroying or keeping down the worm many of the taro roots now in the ground and unaffected whose tops are destroyed, may sprout again. Their tops then will be available for replanting only; the root which is the only part of the plant useful for food cannot be eaten, for I am informed, roots that have sprouted a second time are unfit for food.

FUNDS ARE ABOUT EXHAUSTED.

"One possible contingency may be taken into consideration, which, if it occur, will lend a ray of hope to the general situation, viz.—I am informed by natives and others who should know, that these taro-worms thrive only in dry weather, and that the advent of wet weather will destroy them. The taro then recovers. This being the dry season, heavy rains are not to be expected. A relentless warfare must be waged vigorously and every individual worm killed. This method is entirely feasible since there are plenty of natives who have time and energy which can be put to no better purpose.

"The supplies purchased with the $10,000 appropriated by Congress and the $2,000 given by the American Red Cross Society have been carefully and judicially distributed, but the exhaustion is to be reckoned with at no far distant date. We are, therefore, now confronted with the problem of bridging over a period of eight months, at the expiration of which under favorable circumstances the ever essential taro may be expected.

"The natives as a whole I think are pretty well discouraged as to the outlook, but many things can be done which will better their condition and make them soon take heart again."

WHAT THIS STORM DID

Reporting on the effect of the hurricane one month after it occurred, Surgeon Parker gave a vivid description

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of the storm based on what he saw and information furnished by the natives.

"The first impression one received on approaching the devastated islands from the sea was the marked change in color of the general landscape," said he. "In place of the usual intense tropical green of the luxuriant foliage the whole country appeared sear and brown. The hillsides were covered with fallen timber and debris, which suggested strongly the ravages of a forest fire, such as one frequently sees on the hills of devastated timber tracts. Not the slightest vestige of green vegetation was to be seen anywhere, the entire scene being that of a desolate waste."

On landing at the village of Ofu, Surgeon Parker and his party were impressed by the evident violence of the storm. He continues in his report:

"Of the seventy-four native houses not one remained standing. The church, built of cement, with substantial walls and corrugated iron roof, was razed to the ground. The whole structure was but a pile of broken concrete. The six other houses of European design and substantial cement construction were but a tumbled-down heap of ruins. The whole village site was a mass of broken timber, fallen native houses and general debris. The regular highways were completely obstructed. All the village boats were smashed by falling cocoanut trees and the fragments blown out to sea, so that no trace of them could be found.

"Thousands of cocoanut trees were uprooted and blown down. The few trees that remain standing are stripped of all foliage and are in a dying condition. From the best opinion that can be had not one of the damaged trees will survive. Should planting of cocoanut trees take place at once, which is not likely, it will be at least seven years before the trees will bear or that copra may be cut. All the banana trees are destroyed, most of them having been completely uprooted and blown out to sea. Here and there may be seen a few banana sprouts, but these cannot bear fruit under one year. All taro patches were swept absolutely clean and most of the plants uprooted. So complete was the destruction of these taro beds that they actually could not be located until now, one month after the storm, when an occasional small sprout shows where the bed originally was. Most of the taro roots which remain in the ground are rotten, wormy and unfit for use. The breadfruit crop is entirely destroyed and the trees are so badly damaged that it is doubtful if they ever recover. Breadfruit may not be expected for another three years. The mango trees, the pineapple crop and sugar cane were likewise destroyed.

Turning to a description of the storm, Surgeon Parker said the sea came so far inland that Ofu was entirely under water, and some fish which became stranded on the islands were caught for food.

STRONG MEN CRY FOR DELIVERANCE.

"The natives declare that the wind came from all directions," the report goes on, "yet from the damage done it was evident that its chief course was from a southeasterly direction. The blow was severest, according to the natives, between the hours of 1 A. M. and 3 A. M. The wind is described as coming in tremendous gusts, the force of which was most terrifying. The darkness was intense, there were blinding flashes of lightning and deafening roars of thunder, together with a severe earthquake shock which actually lifted people from the ground.

"Groups of men gathered together in native houses would support the roofs by props and main strength until a tremendous gust would come and the house would collapse. The inmates would then wriggle out from under the fallen houses and seek shelter wherever it could be found.

"The destruction on all hands was so complete that each group of three or four people regarded themselves as the sole survivors. In seeking shelter after saving themselves from a fallen house, these groups would grope about in the intense darkness, where trees, cocoanuts, and other debris were flying about, a great gust of wind would come which would actually blow them apart, and they would then be lost to each other in the

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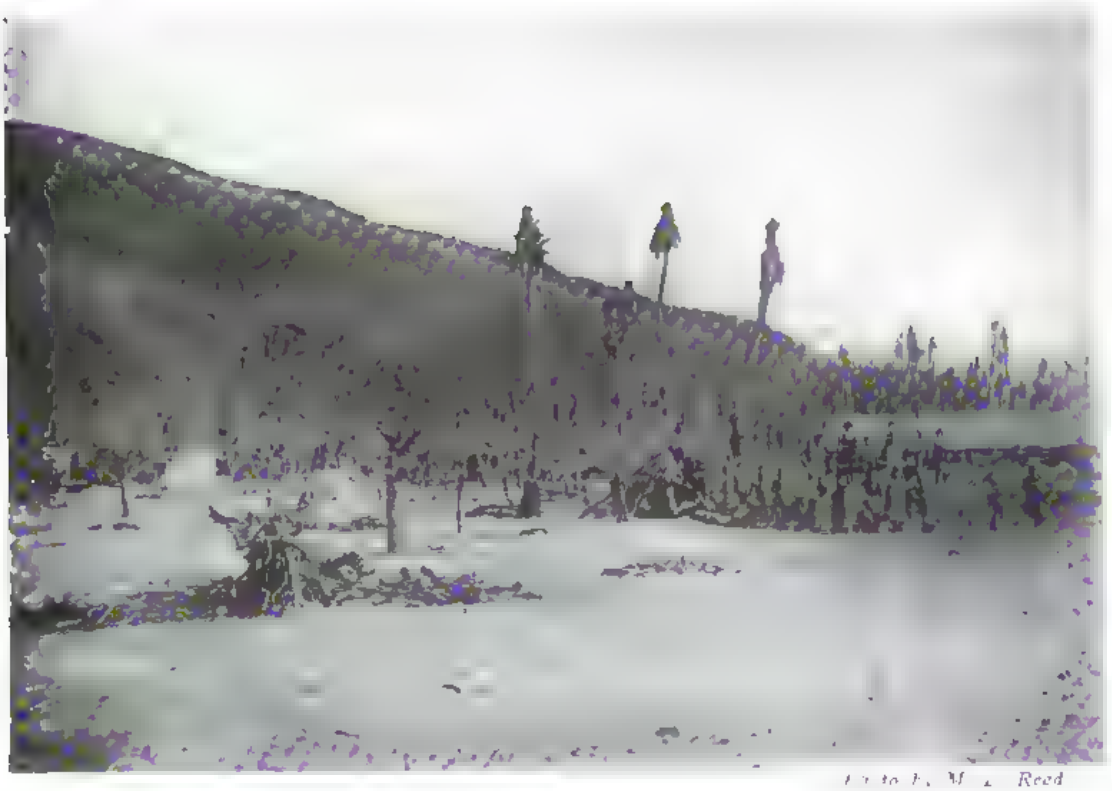

Photo by M. A. Reed

THE DEVASTATED VILLAGE OF TAU. NOTE THE RUINS OF A STONE BUILDING IN THE LEFT BACKGROUND AND THE HILL STRIPPED OF FOLIAGE

darkness. Many stated that the wind was so strong that they could do nothing but lie on the ground, dig their hands and feet in the sand, and hold on for dear life.

"With the intense blackness, the roaring tempest, the terrifying thunder and lightning, and the earthquake, the strongest men cried like children and prayed 'Oh Lord, deliver us.' The man who was killed by a flying piece of roof had in his charge a child. The child's cries as he lay with his dead companion attracted a woman who rescued the child without knowing that his caretaker, who lay beside him, was dead.

"Boxes and trunks containing wearing apparel were blown out of the native houses, smashed into bits and all trace of them lost.

"Many lives were undoubtedly saved by the fact that the iron roofs of the European buildings were blown off early in the storm, while the native houses still afforded shelter."

The foregoing description of the storm will apply to the terrors experienced in some of the other villages and islands of the group, although the earthquake shock was not noticed elsewhere.

The whole situation calls for prolonged and expert relief work.

THE REAL PUBLIC BENEFACTOR!

To ignore trifling annoyances, to avoid ultra-fastidiousness, to condone human frailties, "remembering whereof we are all made"; to think the East wind will "go round to the South," to believe that "the darkest hour is just before dawn,"—in a word, "to make the best of things," is to become a public benefactor without profession of philanthropy.—Mrs. James Farley Cox.

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LETTING THEIR LIGHT SHINE

How the Blind of the United States Are Aiding the Red Cross

HELP others while being helped! This seems to be the inspiring shibboleth of certain groups of blind students, ranging in years from mere youngsters to "grown ups" in different parts of the country. There has been no happening in connection with the European war relief efforts of the American Red Cross throughout the long year that the great conflict has been raging more touching and pleasing than the voluntary cooperation of those remarkably resourceful and cheerful of our citizens who have suffered the great misfortune of blindness. While in the midst of physical darkness they have been letting their spiritual light so shine that men may see their good works and receive sparks of human kindness therefrom. Many of the blind, actually objects of charity themselves, have willingly devoted time which might have been spent for their own welfare and to their personal advantage in aiding the mighty campaign which is being carried on to alleviate the sufferings of the millions in the white-hot furnace of the War of the Eleven Nations Whereas they have been blind, they have seen the way clearly to extend a helping hand to their less fortunate and

BLIND WOMEN SEWING FOR THE RED CROSS AT THE LIGHT HOUSE, NEW YORK ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

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YOUNG WOMEN OF THE WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND DEVOTING THEIR SPARE TIME TO HELPING THE RED CROSS EUROPEAN RELIEF CAMPAIGN

unknown fellow beings in the Old World.

STANDING ON A NEUTRAL ROCK

Through what they call their "Happiness Factory," writes Miss Winifred Holt, "The Keeper of the Light," many of those who are working under the tutelage of the New York Association for the Blind have turned out valuable contributions for the Red Cross. "In this fearful time of war the Lighthouse stands firm on its neutral rock," she says. "The world is its country; to do good its religion. Its light shines alike for the stricken Austrian or German as well as for the children of the Allies. The ceaseless currents which rush against its base bring to it blind men, women and children of all nationalities. The Keepers of the Light must have an international mind.

"World-wide tragedy has caused us all to readjust our point of view. Not among the least heroic and the least self-sacrificing to face the deprivations of hard times have been the blind. While the nations rage some of the blind are bereft of bread and work. At the outbreak of the war our sewing class of blind women immediately started working for the Red Cross, while our class of blind men and women gathered their meagre pennies to help the suffering heroes of the fight."

Cited purely to unveil the sympathetic nature of an organization of blind women, Miss Holt quotes from a report of Miss Keator, President of the Blind Women's Club of the Association, as follows:

"As our fiscal year closes, organizations, as well as individuals, are bending their energies towards aiding in the only way open to us the sufferers from the frightful war. We therefore gave a benefit concert for the purpose of raising money for the Red Cross. The proceeds amounted to $80. We had some beautiful music rendered by kind friends. Two blind men who contributed to the entertainment were received with enthusiasm. We felt that the concert was a fitting end to the year's work, inasmuch as it

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BLIND BOY SCOUTS OF THE WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA INSTITUTE OPERATING BANDAGE ROLLERS FOR THE RED CROSS

marks our efforts to help as well as to be helped."

FROM PENNSYLVANIA'S BLIND

Probably no body of students in the country has excelled in industry and enterprise in their helpfulness to the Red Cross in this great crisis the students of the Western Pennsylvania Institution for the Blind at Pittsburgh. So generously had this institution contributed in hospital garments and other relief supplies that this Magazine prevailed upon the Superintendent, Mr. Thomas S. McAloney, to furnish the story of the modus operandi. His account is very interesting.

"In November," he writes, "I received a letter from Miss Anna May Hegeman, of Washington, D. C., who is greatly interested in the work of this school, suggesting that our pupils do something toward helping the Red Cross in their splendid work in Europe. She also very kindly offered to provide some of the materials, in case they decided to give their services. I read her letter to the assembled school next morning, telling them something of the suffering in Europe, and the great need for help, and called a meeting of our older girls to discuss the matter. They were filled with enthusiasm, and unanimously agreed to begin the work at once. As their schedule of studies in the various departments occupied the greater portion of their time, it was decided not to interfere with the regular school work. Each girl, however, willingly offered to give up her spare time, which at that season of the year was usually devoted to making various Christmas presents for their class mates and loved ones at home, for the Red Cross work. They felt that under the circumstances they would gladly forego this pleasure, for the sake of helping those who were suffering and in need. Our teachers and officers also entered heartily into the work

BOYS AND GIRLS COOPERATE.

"The boys held a meeting and appointed an committee to collect funds

BLIND CAMP FIRE GIRLS OF THE NEW YORK ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

among themselves for the purchase of materials to be made into garments by the girls. They willingly gave from the little spending money which they had, and those who did not have any money requested that some outside work, such as shoveling snow, be given them, so that they could earn a little to contribute to the fund. Our Boy Scouts volunteered to roll bandages, Miss Hegeman providing the rollers for this purpose. She also contributed some of the materials and these together with those purchased with the money contributed by pupils and teachers were soon made into night shirts, wristlets, socks, abdominal bandages, scarfs, towels, etc., and there was great rejoicing when the two large boxes of the finished product were expressed to the Red Cross branch office in New York City.

"Our younger girls somehow felt that they had been left out, and it was not long before a delegation waited upon me in my office, to find out if they also could not do something for the Red Cross. Work was soon provided for them in the shape of towels to be hemmed. Daily inquiry was made by the little ones as to the condition of the 'Belgums.' On Thanksgiving Day one of the little boys said that all during the time he was eating his Thanksgiving dinner, he was wishing that some poor little 'Belgum' boy could share it with him. Another at Christmas time wished that he might share his toys.

"It was exceedingly interesting and pleasing to note the spirit which pervaded the whole school. The little sacrifices which each one made had a desirable and beneficial effect upon those who are accustomed to having so much done for them. The opportunity to help those who needed their help was a great blessing as well as a joy to them. They were uplifted and inspired to be more unselfish and thoughtful of others, and this little experience in their lives makes them feel more appreciative of their own blessings and privileges."

Are not these examples enough to make those of us who are so blessed that we may walk in the light of the sun and see and enjoy all of the wonderful works of creation strive to do more than we are doing in behalf of distressed humanity?

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Mr. and Mrs. Chicago—Welcome!

Another Potential Red Cross Chapter Springs Into Being

By JOHN J. O'CONNOR
Director of the Central Division; Secretary of the Chicago Chapter

"Chicago! To the front for the Red Cross!"

This is the slogan adopted by the president of the Chicago Association of Commerce, the mayor, and the officers of fifty or more civic and commercial organizations in the Garden City.

Chicago, the second largest city of the nation, and the center of a population of 50,000,000 within one night's ride, has always responded liberally, giving to the great national relief funds of the American Red Cross more than 10 per cent of the total contributed by the entire country, although its population is scarcely more than 2 per cent. In view of this and the fact that the city last fall set a new record along this line by raising a fund of $125,000 for European relief work in a single month, it is not surprising that its citizens have announced a determination to make their newly organized Red Cross chapter one of the largest and strongest in the entire nation. Nor will it be any more surprising if they succeed within a comparatively short space of time in accomplishing this object.

Want Membership of 10,000

Starting with a nucleus of but 200 Red Cross members in the city the organization meeting, which was held on June 18, at the Blackstone theater, alone developed a charter membership of over 700, which has since been increased to pass the 1,000 mark without special effort, while plans are being made by the officers and directors for instituting a campaign to obtain at least 10,000 additional members within the next thirty days.

The headquarters of the Central Division, embracing ten States with a total population of 30,000,000, has been located in Chicago for about nine months, and as a result of the interest thus aroused many of the city's most prominent people were present at the installation meeting.

Miss Mabel T. Boardman, Acting Chairman of the Central Committee of the American Red Cross, and Maj. Gen. William C. Gorgas, Surgeon General of the United States Army and Chairman of the War Relief Board of the American Red Cross, journeyed to Chicago from Washington especially to assist in the installation of the chapter. During the ceremonies in the Blackstone Theater Mrs. Potter Palmer, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur T. Aldis, James B. Forgan, Harry Pratt Judson, William J. Chalmers, Henry J. Patten, Cyrus H. McCormick and Julian Mason were among those on the stage.

A. A. Sprague, II, who had been chairman of the organization committee, was elected president of the new chapter, John W. Scott, vice president; Orson Smith, treasurer, and John J. O'Connor, secretary.

A board of directors, consisting of forty members, all prominent residents of the city, was also elected, headed by Hon. William Hale Thompson, mayor of Chicago; Charles L. Dering, president of the Chicago Association of Commerce; Mrs. Arthur T. Aldis, president of Visiting Nurses' Association; Dr.

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James A. Clark, president of the Chicago Medical Society; and Benjamin S. Cable, president of the United Charities of Chicago.

In connection with the installation ceremonies a brilliant reception, under the auspices of the City of Chicago, the Chicago Association of Commerce, the Chicago Board of Trade, the Clearing House Association, the Civic Federation, the Chicago Woman's Club, the Chicago Medical Society, and various other organizations, was given Miss Boardman and General Gorgas.

The organization meeting was called to order by Mr. Sprague, as chairman of the Organization Committee, and Charles L. Dering was named temporary chairman.

Photo by Mussene, Chicago

A. A. SPRAGUE II
President of the New Chicago Red Cross Chapter

PRESIDENT WILSON EXTENDS WELCOME

In his introductory talk Mr. Dering briefly reviewed the relief work done by Chicago and its Association of Commerce in the past, and especially at the time of the Ohio floods when, he said, the need of a local chapter of the Red Cross was first impressed upon the minds of the city's business men, through the association's difficulty in establishing communication with the Red Cross directors for the distribution of its $250,000 relief fund.

President Woodrow Wilson, as president of the American Red Cross, welcomed the Chicago chapter into the national body with the following letter, which was read by the secretary:

Washington, June 12, 1915.

To the People of Chicago:

I am much pleased to learn of the plan to organize a strong and important Chicago Red Cross Chapter.

The American Red Cross is the great philanthropic arm of our country for national and international relief. It deserves the aid of every American citizen who loves not only his own country and her people but who is imbued with the broad spirit of universal brotherhood. The Red Cross needs your aid that it may develop and maintain an organization whose efficiency will enable it to meet the constant demands of suffering humanity that are made upon it.

There is no question of the generosity of our American people, but their business common sense must make it apparent that the mere contributions of funds and supplies without any provision for an adequate, reliable and experienced administration tends to inefficiency and wastefulness, and often leads to actual injury of those it seeks to aid.

We in America should have a Red Cross commensurate in its hold on public confidence, in the efficiency of its service, the number of its membership and the amount of its endowment fund with the importance of our country and its ability to help solve the problems of distress throughout the world.

Therefore, may I, as President of the American Red Cross, hope that Chicago will organize and maintain a Red Cross Chapter worthy of her own name and of the national association.

(Signed) WOODROW WILSON.
President, American Red Cross.

Miss Boardman told of the work being done by the American Red Cross in the present war and dwelt at length upon the need for a stronger organization throughout the nation, and a better systematized method of conducting the work.

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SHOULD CO-ORDINATE RELIEF WORK

She said the American relief work in Europe has not done justice to "our practical and business sense" because the committees were separate and unco-ordinated and that the growth of the Red Cross, with its subcommittees for each nation would be more effective.

"There must be a centralized control," she said. "Wherever such control exists on the battle line the best service is rendered."

She urged Chicago to do its share in establishing an American Red Cross of 2,000,000 members with an endowment fund of $5,000,000.

A STRONG RED CROSS IS NECESSARY

General Gorgas spoke largely upon the unpreparedness of the medical division of the army and of the Red Cross during the Spanish American war and asked better things for the future. He declared it as necessary to have a strong Red Cross as to have a strong army or navy.

"In case of war and the organization of an army of 500,000, not large as compared with the armies now at war, we would need 50,000 beds," he said. "That is on the basis of 10 per cent of sickness. We should have to rely almost entirely upon the Red Cross.

"I appreciate the need for strengthening the organization before the necessity arises."

THE OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Upon recommendation of the Committee on Nominations the following officers and directors were unanimously elected for the new organization:

Officers—President, A. A. Sprague, II; vice president, John W. Scott; treasurer, Orson Smith; secretary, J. J. O'Connor.

Board of Directors—(Members ex-officio): Hon. William Hale Thompson, mayor of Chicago; Charles L. Dering, president Association of Commerce; Mrs. Arthur T. Aldis, president Visiting Nurses Association; Dr. James A. Clark, president Chicago Medical Society; Benjamin S. Cable, president United Charities of Chicago.

Members to serve until October 31, 1915:—Mrs. Russell Tyson, Mrs. Benjamin Carpenter, Dr. Frank Billings, Francis T. Simmons, James A. Keeley, C. H. Canby, H. J. Patten, Sherman C. Kingsley, Adolph Nathan, Cyrus H. McCormick, J. J. O'Connor, Julian Mason.

Members to serve until October 31, 1917:—Mrs. Potter Palmer, George F. Porter, Seymour Morris, Orson Smith, Charles H. Wacker, Arthur Meeker, Arthur T. Aldis, William Wrigley, Jr., Fred W. Upham, Joseph M. Cudahy, Frank G. Logan, George M. Reynolds.

Members to serve until October 31, 1918:—A. A. Sprague, II; John W. Scott, W. J. Chalmers, James Simpson, J. J. Mitchell, J. V. Farwell, Charles G. Dawes, Homer A. Stillwell, W. A. Gardner, James B. Forgan, James A. Patten, B. E. Sunny.

TOMMY ATKINS' "LINGO"

The British Tommy Atkins terms all shells "souvenirs." These "souvenirs" are, however, divided into such classes as "Will-o'-the-wisps," "humming birds," "Sighing Sarahs," and "porridge pots." "Woolly Marias" are shells that burst in double puffs of white, woolly smoke. "Baby" and "mother" are types of British guns. Bullets are "haricot beans." The emergency ration is known as the "imaginary ration," while barb wire entanglements are "fly traps" and "spiders' webs." A battle is a "show," while an important battle is a "picture show." To be captured is to be "scuttled," to be wounded is to be "washed out," and to be killed is to be "put in a bag."—New York Times.

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

Sow good services; sweet remembrances will grow from them.

—Mme. de Stael.

AN ACHIEVEMENT THAT AFFORDS US PLEASURE

To suppress a deep-seated typhus epidemic, which had already caused over one hundred thousand deaths, and to ward off a seemingly inevitable plague of cholera on the southern brink of the European war area is—well, we shall use moderate language—is no child's play. This actually has been accomplished in a large measure by the American Red Cross Sanitary Commission, headed by Dr. Strong, of the Harvard Medical School, sent to Serbia and Montenegro last spring. And certainly we will be pardoned a little exultant pride over the achievement. The good news came from two sources outside of the Red Cross organization—from the American Minister at Bucharest and from Sir Thomas Lipton, who has valiantly assisted the Red Cross by carrying supplies and transporting personnel in Southeast Europe. Miss Boardman tells of this in the third report on the European war relief work of the American Red Cross, which appears in this magazine. An early account of the difficulties encountered by the Commission, received by mail from Dr. Strong, is also published in this issue.

Read how Dr. Strong and an aide risked being shot to death in order to escape contact with the deadly and pernicious vermin that transmit typhus—a contact that would have been highly probable in the best hotels of some of the mountain villages, to say nothing of the indescribably insanitary hospitals, as they were first found. Read of the primitive and disease-inviting conditions which had to be reformed, and then will be appreciated the full significance of the announcement of Sir Thomas Lipton, quoted elsewhere, about the present absence of typhus in hospitals that once were chock full of human beings writhing in the tortures of this revolting and highly-fatal malady. The famous Englishman does not mince words; he calls it "miraculous."

SACRIFICES, NOT A FEW, AT HOME AND ABROAD

The big cleanup work in Southeast Europe was not undertaken without heroic sacrifices. The white-stone crosses which mark the graves of Doctors Magruder and Donnelly, in an alien land, bear witness to only a part of the suffering endured by the American Red Cross contingents and to the heartaches at home. At one time, as has been previously announced, nine of twelve American Red Cross nurses and five of six American Red Cross staff surgeons stationed at Ghevgheli, in South Serbia, were lying in an old tobacco factory the victims of typhus. And the voracious disease later laid low members of the American Red Cross hospital unit in Belgrade, the Serbian Capital. It may be comforting to bereaved relatives, friends and co-workers to learn that the graves of Doctors Magruder and Donnelly, the first in Belgrade and the second in Ghevgheli, are being kept green and oftentimes are bestrewn with flowers by grateful Serbians—by citizens of that distant land for whom they gave their lives.

The European relief campaign of the American Red Cross has been a tremendous undertaking and has been on for an entire year. It will have to be curtailed considerably this fall owing to

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the near depletion of the fund. Every country involved has been helped substantially to solve the relief problems, in most cases with both trained hospital personnel and heavy shipments of medical supplies, and sometimes with cash. The American public with characteristic sympathy and generosity has enabled us to spend and obligate ourselves for the expenditure of over a million and a half dollars and to forward over $200,000 worth of specially donated supplies.

In bold relief against the general background of humanitarian endeavor abroad will stand out the story of the successful battle with the plague in Southeast Europe that once seemed about to sweep northward through the blood-drenched, misery-laden, devitalized war country.

SUFFERING CONTINUES IN DEVASTATED MEXICO

The suffering in Mexico has increased rather than abated lately owing to the exhaustion of the food supplies. Since the issuance of President Wilson's appeal for support of the American Red Cross relief work in Mexico, May 28, we have spent approximately $33,000 in purchasing and distributing foodstuffs among starving non-combatants. Of course, this is a small outlay considering the several million women, children and old men who are innocent victims of the state of famine to which a great part of Mexico has been reduced. It is so small, in fact, that it is like putting a drop of water on the parched and swollen tongue of a thirst-crazed man.

The severity of the fighting at this writing and the seeming disinclination on the part of the American public to give very liberally to such a cause when the prospects for peace continue unpromising, have caused a lull in the relief activities of the American Red Cross in Mexico. However, the Director of the Pacific Division of the Red Cross is administering relief in Mexico City, to which point medicines have been conveyed, and further plans are maturing to forward several carloads of corn. A special agent is directing the relief work in North Mexico. The latter found it necessary at one time to retrace his steps toward the United States from Monclova, as he encountered a hot battle. The grain he was conveying into the Monclova district was brought back to the United States for safe-keeping, and he busied himself by giving first aid treatments to wounded Mexican soldiers. The non-combatant relief efforts in and around Monterey, where some fifteen or sixteen thousand persons have been kept from starving by the distribution of Red Cross corn and beans, is continuing under the immediate supervision of United States Consul General Hanna. The American consuls in various parts of Mexico have contributed splendidly to the success of the relief work thus far done. So have the United States Army Quartermasters along the border.

The American Red Cross hopes sincerely that it will be able to renew on a large scale consideration of the very pressing needs of Mexico's helpless non-combatants when the atmosphere has been clarified somewhat and the time is more propitious than now, and with this in view has called from Europe its National Director, Mr. Bicknell, who will be in a position to give his personal attention to this tremendous humanitarian project.

ANOTHER GREAT FLOOD VISITS CHINESE PROVINCES

Reports of an appalling flood in the Chinese provinces of Kwangtung, Kwangsi and Kiangsi were flashed to this country July 14. This particular flood, racing through a vast and rich section that has been often distressed by such catastrophes, was unprecedented, according to a cable message to the State Department from Consul General Cheshire at Canton. The early reports that at least 10,000 natives had been swept away and to their death by the onrushing waters and untold damage had been done to crops and property were substantiated by later reports. It also was announced that at least 50,000 Chinese had been made homeless. The island of Shameen in Canton harbor had been inundated and there was a total cessation of trade and railroad traffic. Contributions to the suffering thousands

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were urgently needed at once, advised the Consul General.

In keeping with its traditional policy of succoring the millions of flood and famine sufferers of China, the American Red Cross would be only too glad to attempt a large humanitarian work in this most recently flooded area. However, it had to confine its initial contribution for this most worthy purpose to $1,000, and the heavily-taxed contingent fund was drawn upon for this. The $1,000 was telegraphed immediately to the Consul General in Canton.

China has suffered intensely from periodical floods in different parts of its extensive territory, and with a determination to forestall as much as possible these occasional misfortunes, the American Red Cross at no small expense, in cooperation with the Chinese Government, has had the Huai River territory studied by a board of eminent engineers, the plan being to install a gigantic drainage and reclamation system. The theory of the carefully-worked-out project is the time-honored one that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

Different parts of China have been visited by all-destructive floods every few years for forty centuries and multiplied millions of human beings have been direct and indirect victims. The Huai River scheme, which has been completely outlined, will, when it is eventually put into operation by the Chinese Government, mean safety to life and limb for a quite substantial portion of China's population and the conserving of unnumbered millions of dollars' worth of crops and property.

This latest flood in the Canton region came at an especially bad time. The American Red Cross is still devoting its energy to the European war relief work, and on top of that and its regular, domestic relief and educational-humanitarian activities, has been earnestly striving to keep the wolf away from the door of many thousands of women, children and old men in famine-stricken Mexico.

Certainly the field for the neutral and impartial relief measures of the Red Cross is ever spreading rather than decreasing.

BULGARIAN YOUNG WOMEN TO BE TRAINED NURSES

Recently American Red Cross headquarters received a brief cablegram from Queen Eleanore, of Bulgaria, which means much for the future health and well-being of the people of her country.

It told of the arrival of Miss Helen Scott Hay, formerly superintendent of the big Cook County Hospital in Chicago, and lately supervising nurse of the American Red Cross contingent in Kief, Russia, to aid Queen Eleanore in establishing a training school for nurses in the Bulgarian Capital. The American Red Cross long ago promised to aid in this most worthy undertaking planned by the gracious first lady of Bulgaria, and the European war interfered with beginning it. Now the way seems clear to place Miss Hay at the service of Queen Eleanore for a rather indefinite period. The American Red Cross feels that this movement will prove successful, as it has great faith in the initiative and executive ability of Miss Hay.

BLINDED WAR VICTIMS OF EUROPE ARE HELPED

Among the urgent supplemental European war relief measures, launched through the assistance of the American Red Cross, is one having to do with the care and training of the many hundreds of poor soldiers and sailors who have lost their sight as the result of wounds. The American Red Cross has made contributions of $2,000 each for this particular work in Germany and France. In connection with this endeavor in France, Miss Winifred Holt, the experienced and devoted "Keeper of the Light," of the New York Association for the Blind, has been sent to Paris. Miss Holt and her assistants should be able to make their kindly influence felt and be the means of helping many a poor, blinded creature to provide for himself and possess a happier outlook on life.

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